(*g*) how many times a year these tents are being put to use for the last 5 years and on what all occasions ;

(*h*) what is the annual budget allotment with respect to these tents ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar *(Officiating Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Many of the tents now in stock have been purchased about 35 years ago.

(*b*) The information is not available. Now there are 29 tents belonging to the Government.

(*c*) One Cricketer's marque tent was purchased since 1931.

(*d*) The tents were originally in the charge of Police Department. At that time they were being looked after by D'Costa, a contractor of Ernakulam. In 1931 D'Costa expressed his inability to look after these tents. The Police Department then said that they will be unable to be in charge of these tents as their Town Inspector cannot find time to attend to these tents. They were then transferred to the Public Works Department.

(*e*) Yes. A caretaker on a pay of Rs. 15—20.

(*f*) The caretaker has to periodically get the tents pitched to prevent them to be spoiled by mildew, white ants, worms, etc. He has also to air and dust them and see to their issue, receipts, etc., and on certain occasions to accompany them to places where they are required and see them pitched carefully. At other times his services are utilised in the Mechanical Assistant Engineer's Office.

(*g*) These tents are made use of for Government functions such as Garden Parties and in connection with the visits of distinguished personages as Viceroy, Governors, etc. The tents are also occasionally let for other purposes such as Scout Rallies, etc., and to other private parties according to Government orders.

(*h*) Rs. 200 for annual maintenance.

SPECIAL GUARDS—STRENGTH OF

229. Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total number of special guards enlisted at present ; and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(*b*) the total strength of the Police Force in the State ?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):*

(*a*) 320.

(*b*) 756.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know what is the total number of special guards intended to be recruited?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Twice the number of policemen.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* So that the Government has not the idea for further recruiting special guards?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Twice the number of policemen, *i.e.*, a thousand and odd.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know how many special guards are intended for each village?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* That depends upon the importance of the place of the population and things like that.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* What are the functions of the special guards?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Just to supplement the police in the preservation of Law and Order in times of emergency.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Are they paid?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether uniforms are supplied to the special guards.

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Yes.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether Government will do away with the uniforms and increase the number of special guards.

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* They won't be distinguished by the people. In times of emergency they must be distinguished by the people. People must know that they are special guards.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Are the special guards paid anything from Government?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether the Government has considered that the number now mentioned by the Police Commissioner will be inadequate in case of an emergency?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* It is twice the number of the policemen. It will be adequate.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Is it the case of the Government that in case of an emergency you will be able to supply each village with a sufficient number of special guards and policemen?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* As far as possible.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* That is why I was suggesting this. Government concede financial considerations stand in the way.

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No. For instance the Anamalis Hills. We cannot give necessary men. Wherever they are required we will do our utmost to enlist them.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know whether centres have been started in each village for special guards?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No. Only in places where there is a chance of giving the necessary training *i.e.*, near an outpost, or a police station and where we can get a sufficient number.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Will the Government be pleased to post special guards to each village?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* As a matter of fact, we have got special guards in almost all the villages.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Will the Government be pleased to see that there is a sufficient number in each village in case there is an emergency?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* That is our intention.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is any emergency possible in all the villages?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether it is possible to give them a small allowance?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* As it is they have now even to incur expenditure from their own pockets.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly